



United States Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service

## Wildlife Biological Assessment Errata

### Upper Briggs Restoration Project

Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest,  
Wild Rivers Ranger District

*/s/ Bonnie Allison*

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<sup>1</sup> an updated EEO statement (as of 2016).

## Introduction

This Errata documents updates to the Upper Briggs Restoration Project Biological Assessment (BA) that were identified during formal consultation after the final project BA was submitted to USFWS. These updates were provided to USFWS on May 12, 2017 and incorporated into the Biological Opinion (BO).

The final BA and associated BO documents are available at: <<insert applicable hyperlink here>>

## Summary of Information

It was found during consultation that the Action Area (AA) in the final BA did not include the entire acreage of 3 northern spotted owl home ranges within 1.3 miles of proposed project activities. This correction changed the acreage summaries in Table 7 of the BA, which is displayed accurately on page 24 of the BO and is shown below. A total of 1,182 acres were added to the Action Area and adjustments were made to acreages within the text of the document as follows. In addition Maps 3, 4 and 5 in Appendix C of the BA were updated with the correct action area boundary provided for the BO and attached at the end of this document.

**Table 7. Spotted owl environmental baseline for the Upper Briggs Project Action Area. (BA, p 30)**

	Total Acres	NSO NRF <sup>2</sup> Habitat Acres (% Total)		Capable NSO <sup>3</sup> Acres (% Total)	Reserved Acres <sup>1</sup> (% Of Total)	Non-Reserved Acres (% Of Total)	Dispersal-only <sup>4</sup> Acres (% Total)
<b>OWNERSHIP</b>							
All Ownerships	31,525	10,059 (32%)		4,851 (15%)	5,435 (17%)	25,692 (81%)	14,527 (46%)
--Non-federal (Private)	172 (<1%)	32 (18%)		25 (15%)	0	172 (100%)	106 (61%)
--Federal (USFS)	30,250 (99%)	10,008 (32%)		4,815 (15%)	5,435 (17%)	25,520 (82%)	14,378 (46%)
<b>LAND ALLOCATION—FEDERAL</b>							
Late-successional reserve (mapped)	5,177	1,953 (38%)		673 (13%)	5,177 (100%)	0	2,313 (45%)
Unmapped LSR	126	76 (60%)		1 (<1%)	1 (100%)	0	46 (36%)
Administratively Withdrawn	2,503	711 (28%)		341 (14%)	0	2,503 (100%)	1,217 (49%)
Riparian Reserve	5,971	1,988 (33%)		781 (13%)	0	5,971 (100%)	2,913 (49%)
Matrix	17,466	5,957 (34%)		2,301 (13%)	0	17,466 (100%)	8,052 (46%)
<b>SPOTTED OWL CRITICAL HABITAT WITHIN ACTION AREA</b>							
Critical Habitat Unit	Sub-unit	CH Total Acres	CH - NRF Habitat Acres	CH - Capable NSO Habitat Acres	CH Reserved Acres	CH Non-Reserved Acres	CH Dispersal-only Acres
09	KLW-2	27,454	9,442 (34%)	4,003 (15%)	5,256 (17%)	22,198 (83%)	12,375 (45%)
Footnotes: 1 – Reserved = land allocation with no programmed timber harvest which includes congressionally reserved land, LSRs, unmapped LSRs, owl cores and wild and scenic river corridors; 2 – NRF habitat = Consists of habitat used by spotted owls for nesting, roosting and foraging. Generally this habitat is multi-storied, 80-years or older (depending on stand-type and structural condition) and has sufficient snags and down wood to provide opportunities for nesting, roosting and foraging; 3 – Capable habitat = Forest-land that is currently not habitat but can become NRF or dispersal in the future as trees mature and the canopy closes; 4 – Dispersal-only = Habitat that does not meet the criteria to be NRF habitat, but has adequate cover to facilitate movement between blocks of NRF habitat.							

Corrections to Table 12 on page 39 of the BA based on adjustment of AA described above:

**Table 12. Effects to owl habitat within the action area from Upper Briggs proposed actions.**

<b>Action Area USFS Baseline Habitat (Table 7)</b>	<b>10,059</b> <i>(NRF only all ownership)</i>			<b>14,527</b> <i>(Dispersal-only)</i>		<b>24,586 ac<sup>1</sup></b> <i>(total AA NRF + Dispersal)</i>
	<b>NRF Remove (acres)</b>	<b>NRF Downgrade (acres)</b>	<b>NRF T&amp;M (acres)</b>	<b>Dispersal-only Remove (acres)</b>	<b>Dispersal-only T&amp;M (acres)</b>	<b>Total Habitat Acres Treated</b>
<b>Upper Briggs Restoration Project</b>	15.5 <sup>2</sup>	551	552	22+65 = 87 <sup>3</sup>	1,927	<b>3,133</b>
<b>% Change to Action Area Baseline Habitat</b>	<b>-0.16%</b>	<b>-6%</b>	<b>No Change</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>No Change</b>	<b>13% of AA habitat</b>

1- Total NRF and dispersal habitat in Action Area acres across all ownership

2- These acres for road and landing construction overlap NRF downgrade and T&M acres.

3- 65 acres are meadow restoration, separate from 22 acres of road landing construction which overlaps dispersal-only T&M acres.

Implementation of Upper Briggs Alternative 2 would treat approximately 10 percent of the total action area acres and 13 percent of combined NRF and dispersal habitat within the watershed.

Updates were also made in the individual owl site analyses and are included on the following pages which match corresponding tables in the BA.

**Table 13. NSO habitat condition and effects for sites analyzed in Upper Briggs Project Action Area.**

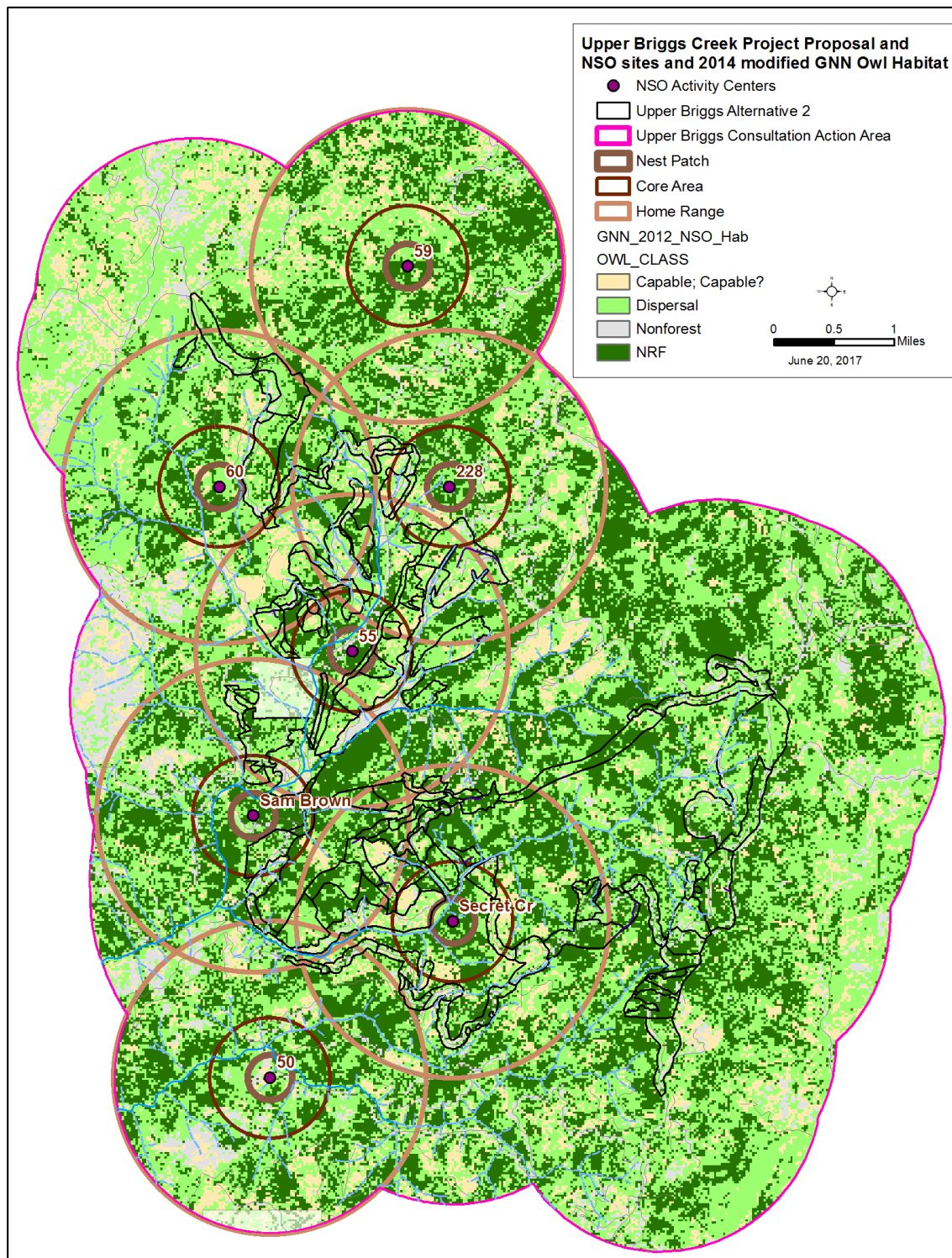
Site	Pre-treatment NRF Habitat <sup>1</sup> Acres/(%)			NRF Reduced <sup>2</sup> (acres)		Dispersal Reduced (acres)		T&M in Nest Patch (acres)		T&M in Core (acres)/		T&M in Home Range (acres)		Post-Treatment NRF Habitat (acres)/%		Effects Rationale
	HR	Core	NP	HR	Core	HR	Core	NRF	Disp	NRF	Disp	NRF	Disp	HR	Core	
50	1246 (36)	197 (39)	16 (23)	7	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	228	427	1239 (36)	197 (39)	7 ac NRF downgrade at edge of HR in small patches within low RHS pine-oak restoration. No change in % NRF, long-term increase in NRF in HR.
55	1094 (32)	207 (41)	37 (53)	31	0.5	65	7	4	6	42	151	189	690	1063 (31)	206.5 (41)	<p>31 ac NRF reduction in HR for low RHS pine-oak restoration will decrease NRF by 1% in deficient HR in short term with long-term increase from treat an maintain acres. No change in CA % NRF short-term with long-term increase.</p> <p>Dispersal reduced: HR- 65 ac meadow restoration; CA - 7 ac meadow restoration.</p> <p>Nest Patch TM is along an existing road to be used as a holding line for underburning a pine-oak restoration treatment. Only ladder fuel treatment by hand to safely underburn would occur here.</p>
59	1356 (40)	200 (40)	38 (54)	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1354 (40)	200 (40)	2 ac NRF downgrade in low RHS ridgeline at edge of Home Range. No change in % NRF.

Site	Pre-treatment NRF Habitat <sup>1</sup> Acres/(%)			NRF Reduced <sup>2</sup> (acres)		Dispersal Reduced (acres)		T&M in Nest Patch (acres)		T&M in Core (acres)/		T&M in Home Range (acres)		Post-Treatment NRF Habitat (acres)/%		Effects Rationale
	HR	Core	NP	HR	Core	HR	Core	NRF	Disp	NRF	Disp	NRF	Disp	HR	Core	
60	948 (28)	185 (37)	60 (86)	39	0	6	0	0	0	24	49	103	350	909 (27)	185 (37)	39 ac NRF reduction in HR on low RHS ridgeline. 1% short-term NRF reduction in deficient HR with long-term increase in HR and CA. 6 ac dispersal removed for meadow restoration at edge of HR.
228	1007 (30)	151 (30)	35 (49)	17	0.5	10	2	0	0	9	52	64	369	990 (29)	150 (30)	17 ac NRF reduced in deficient HR for pine-oak restoration results in 1% NRF reduction. No change in CA %NRF. Long- term increase of NRF at HR and CA with treat and maintain.
Sam Brown	1356 (40)	251 (50)	38 (54)	72	0.6	54	7	0	0	43	50	158	367	1284 (38)	250 (50)	72 ac NRF reduction in HR on low RHS ridgeline and pine oak restoration. 2% NRF reduction would move HR below threshold in the short-term. No change in CA %NRF. Long-term increase in NRF in HR and CA.  Dispersal reduced for meadow restoration and landing construction.
Secret Cr	1488 (44)	185 (37)	43 (61)	175	0.5	5	1	0	4	34	86	185	440	1313 (39)	184 (37)	175 ac NRF reduction would occur in low RHS ridgeline FMZ and for pine-oak restoration. These acres are spread out at the edges of the Home Range. 5% NRF reduction would move HR 1% below threshold in the short term with long term increase from TM acres.

1- NRF on federal lands/ percent of habitat within the total home range or core area – acres of NRF / 3400 acres for HR; acres of NRF / 500 acres for CA.

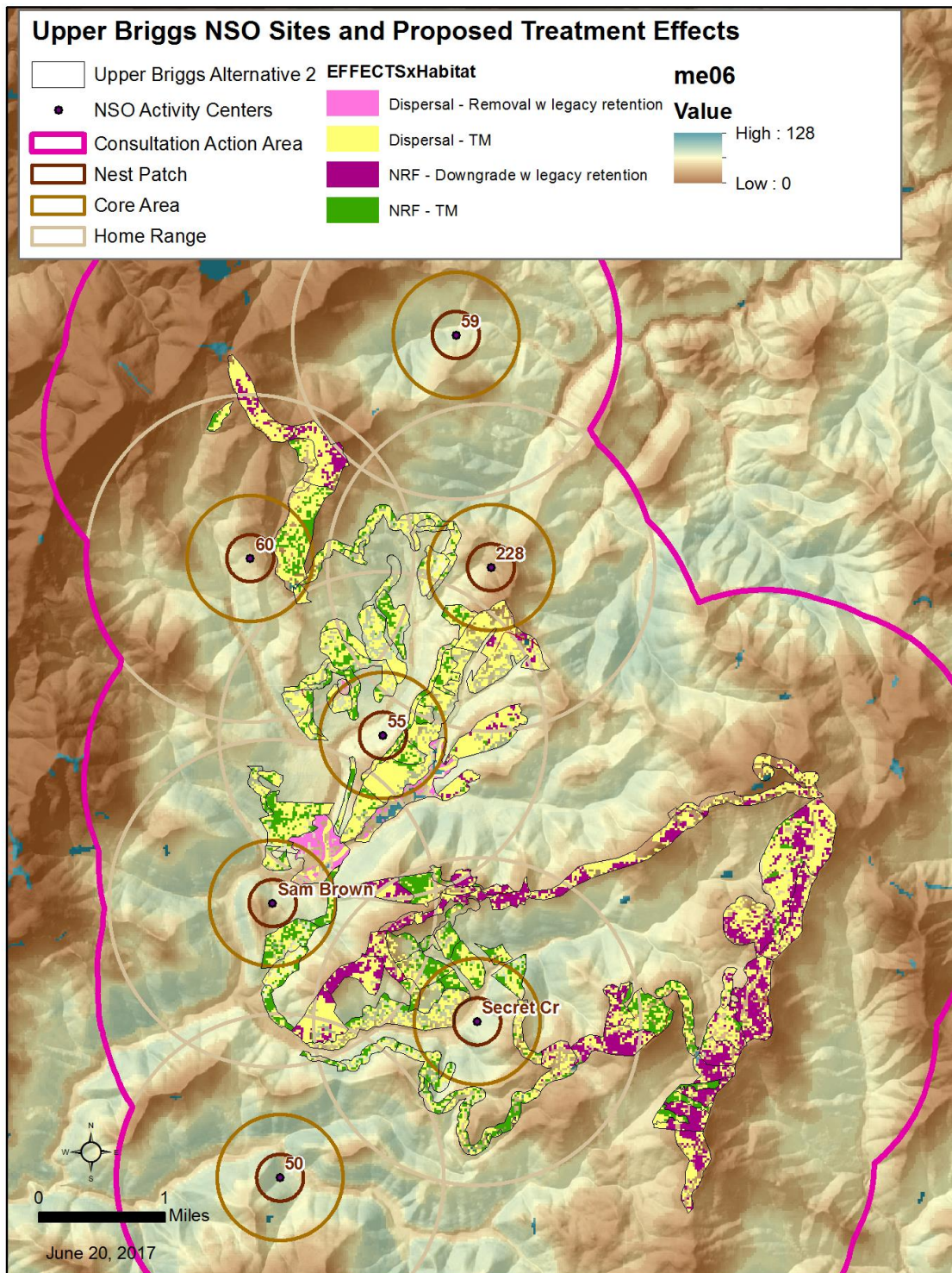
2- Reduced = NRF or Dispersal removed or downgraded from the proposed action. Removal of NRF or dispersal for landings and road construction in the acreage for respective treatments and not double-counted.

Map 3. Upper Briggs Action Area Owl Habitat (Corrected Action Area Boundary)





Map 4. Upper Briggs Project Units by Habitat Effects and RHS (Corrected Action Area Boundary).





Map 5. NRF habitat downgrade 500-acre Critical Habitat Analysis (Corrected Action Area Boundary).

